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## TWO NEW FRUIT BATS COLLECTED BY THE WHITNEY SOUTH SEA EXPEDITION

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The Pacific Islands have recently been visited by two scientific expeditions which have obtained large collections of bats. This is the first extensive work that has been done on the Chiroptera of the region since the last century. The first of these collections was made by the Whitney South Sea Expedition of The American Museum of Natural History, which is still in the field. It contains 211 specimens embracing twenty-two species of Megachiroptera and nine species of Michrochiroptera. Not only are many of these species rare, being heretofore unrepresented in American museums, but all have added much to the knowledge of distribution.

The other collection was made by the Crane Pacific Expedition of Field Museum of Natural History during 1928 and 1929. The Whitney South Sea Expedition material was loaned to Field Museum for use in determining the Crane Pacific collection. It was found that the two collections were so interwoven that a combined report upon them would have many advantages in interest and helpfulness to future workers. Therefore, The American Museum of Natural History and the Field Museum have generously placed both collections in my hands for the preparation of such a report. The following paper, in which two species of fruit bats from the Whitney South Sea collection are described as new, is a forerunner of the complete report which will appear later in the publications of Field Museum.

I wish to thank the authorities of The American Museum of Natural History for permission to publish this paper and the future report. I am especially indebted to Mr. H. E. Anthony, Curator of Mammals, and also to Mr. Robert T. Hatt, and Mr. T. Donald Carter, of the Department of Mammals.

### **Pteropus banksiana**, new species

TYPE.—No. 79986, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.; ♂ ad.; Ureparapara or Bligh Island (13° 35′ S., 167° 18′ E., twelve miles northwest from the north point of

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Vanua Lava Island), Banks Islands, between the New Hebrides and the Santa Cruz Islands; November 16, 1926; collected by the Whitney South Sea Expedition. The type, from which the skull has been removed and cleaned, is in alcohol.

GENERAL CHARACTERS.—The smallest of the *samoensis* group; about the size of *anetianus*, but with shorter forearm. Color almost a uniform shade of brown.

DESCRIPTION.—Color of back and belly Prouts brown shading to lighter on rump, foreneck, head, and lower belly.

Skull with short rostrum and heavy dentition. Upper incisors strong, not touching. $I_2$ about two and a half or three times the bulk of $i_1$. Canines strong, the upper ones slightly recurved, both with strong cingulums the edges of which show faint traces of tubercles. $P^1$ slightly smaller than $i_2$ and $p_1$ slightly larger than $i_2$; $p_3$ with broad posterior basal ledge having its edge broken into small tubercles; $p^3$ with a broad posterior basal ledge and a small cusp on the anterior internal face of tooth; $p^4$ and $p_4$ have posterior basal ledges which show a tendency to break into tubercles, and also have faint internal ledges, stronger anteriorly in $p^4$ and posteriorly in $p_4$. $M^1$ with heavier internal basal ledge whose edges and the cutting edges of the crown are broken into faint tubercles; $m_1$ with tuberculated basal internal and posterior ledges; $m^2$ about the size of $i^2$; $m_2$ with basal and internal basal ledges; $m_3$ slightly larger than $p^1$.

MEASUREMENTS.—Forearm, 117.5 mm.; pollex, total length, c. u., 51.4; pollex, metacarpal, 11.4; pollex, 1st phalanx, 26; 2nd digit, metacarpal, 59.3; 2nd digit, 1st phalanx, 15.8; 2nd digit, 2nd and 3rd phalanges, c. u., 15; 3rd digit, metacarpal, 79.1; 3rd digit, 1st phalanx, 57; 3rd digit, 2nd phalanx, 81.8; 4th digit, metacarpal, 78.7; 4th digit, 1st phalanx, 48; 4th digit, 2nd phalanx 49.8; 5th digit, metacarpal, 82.7; 5th digit, 1st phalanx, 35.8; 5th digit, 2nd phalanx, 37.8; ear, length from orifice, 20.7; ear, greatest width, flat, 12; interfemoral, 1; lower leg, 57.3; foot, c. u., 33; calcar, 16.4; front of eye to tip of muzzle, 22.6.

Skull, total length, 57; basal length, 55.3; front of orbit to tip of nasals, 16.3; brain-case at zygomata, 20.9; zygomatic width, 31.7; width across canines, externally, 11.6; postorbital constriction, 7; interorbital constriction, 7.3; orbital diameter 11; mandible length, 41.2; coronoid height, 24.7; upper teeth, $c$–$m^2$, 21.2; lower teeth, $c$–$m_3$, 22.3; upper incisors, combined width, 6.2.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.—The type is the only specimen known.

### **Pteropus nitendiensis**, new species

TYPE.—No. 75186, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., ♂ ad.; Santa Cruz or Nitendi Island, Santa Cruz Islands; February 24, 1924; collector, F. P. Drowne, Whitney South Sea Expedition. The type is a skin with skull. The skull lacks the premaxillaries, the upper incisors, and the middle lower incisiors.

GENERAL CHARACTERS.—A member of the *pselaphon* group, about the size of and closely related to *tuberculatus*, but with slightly narrower teeth and of a different color pattern.

DESCRIPTION.—Color of back and rump cream-buff darkened by light seal-brown bases of hairs. Mantle, neck tufts, and hairs on tibia close to Mikado brown lightened by golden tips to the hairs. Crown warm buff, bases of hairs gray. Sides of face and throat a few shades darker than the mantle. General color of the much worn breast and belly a grizzled brown.

Skull short and stout with broad rostrum and heavy dentition. Very much like *tuberculatus* except that the interorbital region is more depressed, the teeth are very slightly narrower, the upper canines do not have the cusp-like projection on the hinder trenchant margin, and the orbital diameter is larger.

MEASUREMENTS.—Forearm, 121 mm. Skull, total length to tip of nasals, 54.8; palation to incisive foramina, 27; front of orbit to tip of nasals, 15.5; width of brain-case at zygomata, 21; zygomatic width, 33; width across $m^1$, externally, 15.8; lacrymal width, 13.7; width across canines, externally, 12.6; postorbital constriction, 6.5; interorbital constriction, 8.5; orbital diameter, 12.5; mandible length 41.6; coronoid height, 23.2; upper teeth, c–$m^2$, 21.4; lower teeth, c–$m_3$, 23.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.—The type and one male. The second specimen was taken at the same time as the type. It is younger, the forearm measures 116, and the teeth have been lost from the skull.